

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/767,248
Attorney Docket No. 351913-992820 (2102397)

REMARKS

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Applicants thank Examiner for allowing claims 3-9 and 14-23.

The Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 10-13 have been amended as requested, and should now overcome Examiner's rejection.

The Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-2 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,982,230 to *MacBeth* ("*MacBeth*"). Applicant respectfully traverses, noting that *MacBeth* does not disclose all elements of claims 1, 2, or 24 as amended. More specifically, *MacBeth* does not disclose adaptive interconnection of operational amplifiers, where that interconnection can include both connection and disconnection.

As discussed previously, *MacBeth* discloses an amplifier circuit with two differential amplifiers 60, 70 and inputs 81-84 (e.g., FIG. 1 and accompanying text). Amplifiers 60, 70 can be connected to different ones of the inputs 81-84 (Id.). However, it can be seen that the amplifiers 60, 70 cannot be interconnected in any other ways besides those shown. For instance, neither amplifier 60, 70 can be disconnected. Accordingly, claims 1 and 24 are patentable over *MacBeth* for at least the reason that they recite a controller for interconnecting inputs of operational amplifiers, where the interconnecting includes "connecting the inputs of pairs of the operational amplifiers" and "disconnecting ones of the operational amplifiers" Claim 2 depends from claim 1, and is thus also patentable for at least this same reason.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-24 are now in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the number below in order to speed the prosecution of this application.


The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. 07-1896.

Respectfully submitted,

DLA PIPER US LLP

Dated: September 14, 2006

By



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